

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 8-13 have been withdrawn. Claims 1-13 thus remain pending in the application.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejections

The Office Action rejects claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,615,257 to Lee et al. ("hereinafter "Lee"). Claims 1-7 are not anticipated by Lee because Lee does not teach or suggest each and every limitation recited in independent claim 1.

As amended, claim 1 recites the limitation, "wherein each of the plurality of network devices is configured to have multiple versioned instances of configuration knowledge and configuration data, each versioned instance of configuration data being created at a different point in time." The above added limitation has support in the specification at paragraphs 0041 – 0042 and FIG. 5. The specification recites, "Assuming that a system upgrade is unsuccessful for some reason, network administrators often wish to roll-back the configuration to a previous known configuration." *See Paragraph 0041.* Rolling back to a previous known configuration implies that the creation of each instance of configuration data occurs at a different point in time. In the above quoted language from the specification, the term "previous" further implies a relation between versioned instances and time.

Lee fails to disclose this limitation of claim 1, as Lee is silent on "each versioned instance of configuration data being created at a different point in time." In contrast, Lee merely discloses a single configuration for a cable modem wherein different configuration areas are

accessible by different user types. *See Lee*, Abstract. Hence, Lee focuses on different user types to distinguish configuration areas.

Multiple configuration areas accessible by different user types is not the same as "each versioned instance of configuration data being created at a different point in time." Therefore, Lee fails to disclose this limitation of claim 1. Hence, claim 1 is patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Lee.

Dependent claims 2-7 depend upon and include the limitations of claim 1. Therefore, for the same reasons as listed above, dependent claims 2-7 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Lee.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that no further impediments exist to the allowance of this application and, therefore, solicits an indication of allowability. However, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned if any questions or comments arise.

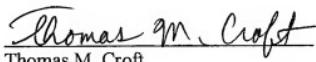
The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16, 1.17, and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1283.

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